Docket No. F0697

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A network device that controls the communication of data frames between stations receives data frames having different levels of priority. The network device identifies the levels of priority and processes the frames based on the priority level. When a congestion condition associated with a resource on the network device occurs, the network device generates a pause frame that includes a priority indicator and transmits the pause frame to at least one station. When a receiving station receives the pause frame, the receiving station suspends transmission of data frames having a priority corresponding to the priority indicator and continues transmitting frames having other priorities.